

The State of New Hampshire

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



Thomas S. Burack, Commissioner

September 6, 2013

Mr. Curt Spalding, Regional Administrator USEPA REGION 1 - New England 5 Post Office Square, Suite 100 Boston, MA 02109-3912

Re: 2002 Periodic Emissions Inventory Withdrawal

Dear Administrator Spalding:

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES) submitted the state's 2002 Periodic Emissions Inventory (PEI) to EPA on June 7, 2007, for approval as a revision to the New Hampshire State Implementation Plan (SIP). To date, EPA has not taken any action to formally approve this SIP revision. As Governor Hassan's designee, I am formally withdrawing the 2002 PEI for the following reasons.

The 2002 inventory was initially intended to be approved into the NH SIP as part of a Reasonable Further Progress (RFP) plan for the 1997 National Ambient Air Quality Standard for Ozone. New Hampshire subsequently met that standard and, on March 18, 2008, EPA Region 1 issued a clean data determination, which relieved the state of its obligation to prepare an RFP plan.

DES then submitted a request to redesignate the Boston-Manchester-Portsmouth (SE), NH ozone nonattainment area to attainment of the 1997 standard on March 2, 2012 (amended September 21, 2012). EPA subsequently published notice of a final rule approving the New Hampshire request on January 31, 2013 (78 FR 6741), effective March 4, 2013. This notice further noted that "EPA is also approving a comprehensive 2008 emission inventory for this area."

Given EPA's approval of a 2008 PEI that supersedes the prior 2002 PEI, DES is withdrawing the 2002 PEI SIP revision submittal and requests that EPA take no further action relative to that submittal.

I appreciate your consideration of this matter. Should you have any questions with regard to this request, please contact Barbara Hoffman of my staff at barbara.hoffman@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-7874.

Regards,

Craig A. Wright

Director, Air Resources Division

cc: Robert McConnell, USEPA Region 1 - New England